THE PIONEER
THE MAGAZINE OF THE CHURCH ARMY IN AUSTRALIA

EVANGELISTS TO AUSTRALIA IN THE ANGLICAN CHURCH

**1990-2000 DECADE OF EVANGELISM**

**THE WAY TO BE A WITNESS**
Can I talk about My Faith?

**THE BIBLE...**
Living Word of God

**MISSION IMPOSSIBLE**
Is Mission Impossible In Your Church?

SEE INSIDE

A PIONEER Extra:
3 Study Guides on Evangelism

**CHURCH ARMY IN AUSTRALIA**
A Society of Evangelists within the Anglican Church

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**LIFTOUT STUDIES ON EVANGELISM INSIDE—MORE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST**

# HOW CAN I SUPPORT THE WORK OF EVANGELISM IN THE CHURCH ARMY IN AUSTRALIA?

## HERE ARE A VARIETY OF WAYS AVAILABLE TO YOU—

### GENERAL FUND DONATIONS

Are used towards Caring for Officers, Parish Missions, Training Days, Resource Development, Staff Salaries and Administration.

### COLLEGE OF EVANGELISM

This can be a general donation for College Funds or earmarked for something special, e.g.

(a) Subsidy to help needy students;
(b) Donation towards the Library and Resources;
(c) The College Building Fund (TAX-DEDUCTIBLE);
(d) The Principal's Discretionary Fund.

### COWLAND FUND (Tax-deductible)

This is a welfare fund which is used to support the work of our field officers in specific areas of "welfare need" among the people to whom they minister.

### BEQUEST

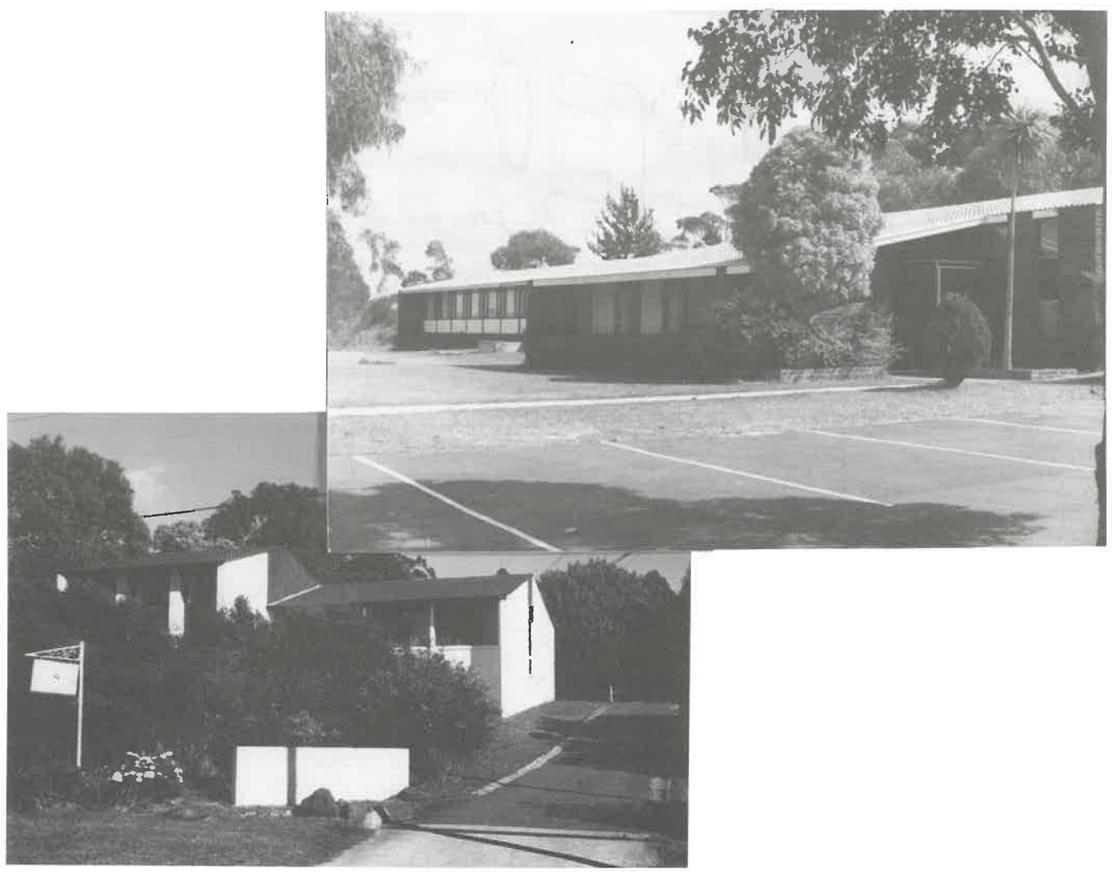
These donations can be made as part of your will. You need to cut out the following to be used as a Codicil to your Will, send it to your Solicitor, and cut out the note opposite and send it to us.

"I give to the Church Army in Australia* .....

.....

for its general purposes free from any contribution to my debt and testimony expenses and declare that the receipt of the Honorary Treasurer for the time being or other proper officer of the Church Army shall be a sufficient discharge of the same."

** Here insert the sum of money or the description of the houses, land, stock, shares, mortgage, debt or other property intended to be given.*





# HALLELUJAH GEORGE—RECOLLECTIONS

At a special Service on July 16th in St. Mary's Balmain many people gathered to join with the Rev. George Rees to celebrate George's involvement in 60 years of Evangelism. Since his years with the Church Army, George has worked as Diocesan Evangelist in Sydney, along with groups such as Pocket Testament League, Christian Endeavour, Outback Patrol, and even though in his 81st year, George is often away preaching. His unique use of advertisements as a jumping off point immediately catches the attention of his hearers along with his Welsh accent and regular use of the terms Hallelujah and Praise the Lord. Following is an extract from an article written by George recalling his very early days with the Church Army.

*Rev. George Rees—1989.*

In my 60 years of evangelism, I am greatly indebted to the Lord Jesus Christ for the wonderful contribution the Church Army made in the four and a half years I was with them; namely, February 1937 to May 1941. In my cadetship from February 1937 to May 1938 I learned a tremendous amount on evangelism—a specialty with Church Army. We were taught and nurtured through the scriptures on how to do personal work, take meetings and services in Church Halls, on Beaches, in open air meetings from the cane fields in Queensland to the hop fields in Tasmania.

I recall the many preaching appointments at Missions in Mackay, Farleigh, Hampden in Queensland, Bagdad, Jericho, Kempton and other midland towns in Tasmania, then Violet town and Wodonga in Victoria and later Waterloo, Surry Hills, Nabiac, Tuncurry, Forster, Wallsend and Birmingham Gardens in New South Wales along with six months in the C.A. College of Adamstown. How well we were schooled in house to house visitation, scripture in schools and the valuable use of visual aids in many respects quite a new thing in those days. The value of music and singing was carefully taught and practised.

*Captain George Rees—1938.*

On personal evangelism, the late Captain John Cowland always had an excellent anecdote to help us, e.g. coming in one day to tell us how he had just left a baker, telling him how he was in a similar kind of business and introduced him to the Lord Jesus Christ as the bread of life in John 6. Starting from that beginning, I have spoken to hundreds of bakers in breadshops and many supermarkets where advertising bread is a specialty—Praise the Lord.

We also had lectures on how to use slide projectors and I will recall one on Pilgrim's Progress by John Bunyan. This book had been used by the Lord in my conversion and continually in the gospel ministry. I was able to purchase a copy from C.A. in London and have it hand coloured by Kodak in Launceston .

In Tasmania I always look back with great pleasure to evangelism in the lumber camps at Fitzgerald and in other southern Tasmanian venues and the six weeks each year in the hop fields of Bushy Park, Ellendale, etc.

I have lectured a lot on evangelism in various Colleges including Church Army at Stockton and at present at Outback Patrol in George's Hall and have regularly mentioned my indebtedness to C.A.

HALLELUJAH—AMEN.

# WELCOME TO THE BOARD

At the recent meeting of the Executive Board of the Church Army, Bishop Ken Mason, at present Chairman of the Australian Board of Missions, was elected to the Board.

Bishop Mason grew up in Bathurst N.S.W. and after schooling there, trained at Sydney Teachers' College followed by nearly four years teaching with the Department. After studies at the University of Queensland and St. John's College Morpeth, he was ordained to the priesthood in 1954. He then served with the Brotherhood of the Good Shepherd and ministered in Gilgandra, Darwin, Alice Springs and Brisbane. These experiences developed in Bishop Mason a strong feeling for community life and mutual sharing that has helped him in his pastoral ministry.

Bishop Mason enjoys driving, particularly in the Australian countryside. He enjoys opera and ballet and most classical music. He was very taken by Sydney although he never thought he would work there and feels greatly privileged.

He was consecrated Bishop of Northern Territory in 1968 and has been involved in Anglican Communion missionary groups and presently represents Australia in the Mission Agencies Working Group. This group meets yearly to discuss and analyse Anglican Missionary Societies' policies and programmes.

*The Right Reverend K. B. Mason.*

gospel of Jesus was true and they had ignored it, as one unit, they rushed the narrow path trying to push in, many were trampled, but not one got in, my heart ached and tears sprang to my eyes for these lost people and Jesus said: "If you can save but one of these then you have done the work I have sent you to do."

Now I am an Evangelist, as that night Jesus sowed His love for the lost in MY heart, and gladly I have seen many come to Christ, not just one. All I must do is proclaim the gospel—only Jesus makes it operative within a person.

The work here is slow with few immediate rewards, the inner city is full of apathy towards God, the gap between the parish and the people in the community is large. It is a poor community so projects are difficult, traditional methods of outreach don't work and the emphasis is on a one to one basis but God is here and He is beginning to make things happen. Other Churches and denominations have heard of what we are doing with the housing commission areas and are excited; they want to help and take the Church to the people but don't know how. So they have consulted me, together we are working on the possibility of an inter-denominational evangelistic team using unconventional methods to communicate the gospel. The ideas are still at conception stage, but God raised them, so I believe he will honour them!

PRAISE THE LORD!

### CAPTAIN WARREN SMITH—MORWELL, VICTORIA

The Parish of Morwell is reflecting and responding to the change by our inspired Bishop (Colin Sheumack) i.e. recognising the priority and urgency of evangelism, becoming aware of the uniqueness of evangelism, setting goals and objectives towards evnagelism as we *prepare* to enter the "decade of evangelism".

Morwell has experienced much change in the past two years. Many have been inspired of God, of putting their faith into practice through various avenues of ministry. Activity in some of those avenues include:

- Growth and development of youth groups and interaction with other youth groups;
- Children's ministry: After-school club, C.R.E. in primary schools; Looking into S.U.P.A. (Scripture Union for Primary Ages), Sunday School, Liturgical Dance and Singing groups (motivating inspired worship);
- Five home Bible groups are an integral part of parish life to provide a great source of fellowship and nurture with healing and growth in the Church;
- About 40 people have done the Christianity Explained Course which is providing a good springboard into the decade of evangelism;
- Cursillo is playing a major role in the diocese. Through the co-operation and inspiration of clergy and lay people, Cursillo has been instrumental in igniting people's faith, so as to enable others in the parish to "catch the glow". About 12 people have attended Cursillo from Morwell, including myself.
- I have been appointed to the Camp and Conference Committee to share the vision of this ministry and also provide an evangelistic thrust. We hope to build up the youth of parishes and also bring them together.

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Assorted Calendars and choice gleanings.

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Some titles: *The Great Omission; Why I Believe In Jesus; Commitment To Christ; God's All Inclusive Love.*

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Childrens' Cassette and Book Sets (age 1–6 years) $10.00 value. **Special $2.99**

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*Clearing Away The Rubbish.* **$11.95**
*Broken Windows, Broken Lives.* **$8.95**




# VISIT TO CHURCH ARMY—LONDON

*Church Army Training College, London.*

*Captains John Mitchell and Brian Mattinson.*

During our recent trip overseas as part of long service leave, Nancy and I were able to visit the London headquarters which is based in a four-storey building in Blackheath. After some time with the Chief Secretary, Rev. Michael Rees, we were taken on a tour of the building during which we met a number of the staff. We were then taken for a brief car ride to the Training College which gave us some insight to the training programme in preparing evangelists for ministry. This property is in the process of being sold as C.A. plan to relocate in the middle of England and so serve the Church on a wider basis.

Whilst in London, we were able to visit a Church Army hostel "Leinster Lodge" in Putney, where we had the privilege of meeting Captain John Mitchell, who served as a member of the team who pioneered the work of Church Army in Australia from 1931. John Mitchell spoke with great affection of his time in Australia and the work of the Australian Church Army is often in his thoughts and prayers. We talked about those early days and although he lost touch with some of the team years ago, he thought he may be the only surviving team member, at 89 this is probably correct.

When we mentioned the weight of English breakfasts and many other "good things" we found ourselves eating as we travelled throughout the U.K., he shared with us some dietary tips, so to all members of the Church Army who find themselves at Church suppers or on deputation tours being piled with "good" food, we pass on this information. Wilson Carlile, Church Army founder and leader for many years when on deputation and staying at various people's homes where meals would be served, thoughtfully sent his hostess a list of the type of meals he would prefer to eat. The food he chose was simple and nourishing and probably saved his hostesses anxiety and the work in preparing more elaborate meals. Mr Carlile, a frugal eater, died at the age of 95. John Mitchell, of course, did not take such liberty, he simply made sure he kept to the more healthier type of food provided on such occasions, such as salads, when away on tour and never accepted second helpings. His trim figure testifies to his lifelong habit of healthy eating.

As he graciously shared with us his wisdom and knowledge of things past and things present, we found John Mitchell to be very much aware of the current issues, keenly interested in evangelism and prayerfully concerned that the Gospel of Jesus Christ be preached. John particularly recalled Wilson Carlile's very strong emphasis on full commitment to Christ in his preaching and commented that he often felt this was lacking in today's evangelism.

It was good to spend a delightful hour or two with you Captain John Mitchell; may we say we found you to be an Officer (of our King's army) and one of God's own gentlemen.

Brian and Nancy Mattinson.

# 1989—COMMISSIONING SERVICE

A number of second year students from our College will be Admitted to the Office of Evangelist at St. Bede's Anglican Church Drummoyne on December 6th, 1989 at 8.00 p.m. The admitting Bishop and preacher will be the Right Rev. J. R. Reid of Sydney. Every reader of Pioneer is invited to join us on this occasion.

# 1990—STAFF CONFERENCE

This Conference will be held from Monday, January 15th through to Friday, 19th 1990 at the Anglican Gilbulla Conference Centre near Sydney. It is expected that over 100 people will gather including officers and their families. The Rev. Canon Allan Whitham, General Secretary of the Anglican Home Mission Society, will lead Bible Studies each day.

# MISSION IMPOSSIBLE

## *Is Mission Impossible in your Church?*

*Is Your Fellowship Outgoing?*

**Is Mission Impossible today?**
What is the alternative to an outgoing Church? Is it a case of evangelise or fossilise?

**What do we mean by 'mission' anyway?**
'Mission' is an umbrella term for the total work of the church. It includes all our concern for the needy whether at home or abroad, it takes in the maintenance of worship and finally the preaching of the Gospel. This latter aspect of mission is also known as evangelism.

**Can we engage in the caring aspects of mission without the evengelism?**
Our preaching indicates the reason for our caring, and therefore both must go together. A lively Christian Faith also makes a tremendous difference to the way we live, as Douglas Webster puts it, "Not to know Christ is to be a deprived person, whether rich or poor."

**But decent respectable people do not need preaching at, surely?**
Outward appearances can be deceiving. In the words of David Sheppard, the former Bishop of Woolwich, "Our neighbours are largely happy pagans."

**How long do preparations take?**
Generally for a two week Mission it is good to have twelve months to prepare. A local steering committee is generally set up and training sessions are arranged for the members of the Church.

**Who should be the Missioners?**
A local fellowship may bring in certain people to advise and lead a mission, but it is the duty of every Christian to witness and to engage in a caring ministry. It is therefore not the sole responsibility of some group of professionals but ours as well. In the words of Kenneth Cragg, "Mission lives by its disciples; but it lives for its absentees."

**What if I do not want to be a missioner?**
It is quite simple according to Alan Redpath..."Either you are a missionary or you are a Mission Field."

**Read: Matthew 28:18-20, Luke 24:45-53.**

1. Are there more Anglicans in our area to whom we could reach out and if so how?
2. How can we reach out to other cultures in our community?
3. What ways can we offer ourselves to be involved in mission?
4. In what ways can we use the trained Church Army Evangelists or others to help us?

*REFLECTION*

### MOVEMENT

"When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.'"
Matthew 9:36-38.

**FOR FURTHER READING:**

"Good News to Share" by Douglas Webster (C.M.S.)
"Friendship Evangelism" (Church Army)
"Christian Mission in the Modern World" by John Stott (C.P.A.S.)
"The Local Church and Mission" by Peter Corney (ACORN)

Available at Your Local Christian Bookshop or The Church Army Bookshop, 14 Perkins Street, Newcastle, (049) 29 3160 - 29 1993.

The Church Army, P.O. Box 107, Frenchs Forest NSW 2086.

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